



**WHEREAS**, the Iowa Colony High School Girls Track and Field Team demonstrated exceptional athletic achievement, dedication, perseverance, and sportsmanship throughout the 2025-2026 season; and

**WHEREAS**, through their hard work and commitment to excellence, the Lady Pioneers earned an impressive **Third Place Overall Team Finish** at the UIL State Track and Field Championships, bringing great pride and recognition to Iowa Colony, Iowa Colony High School, and the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, the team's success was made possible through the leadership, guidance, and dedication of Coaches **Rachel Easley, Aundra Long, Will Gulley, Kenneth Fontenette, Taylor Carter, Austin Bennett,** and **Larry Wright**, whose commitment to developing student-athletes has contributed greatly to the program's achievements; and

**WHEREAS**, the following student-athletes achieved outstanding results at the UIL State Track and Field Championships:

- **4x100 Meter Relay** – **Symone Williams, Ashtyn Lewis, Arius Williams, and Aysha Mitchell**, with alternate **Bailey Ballard**, earned a **Second Place State Finish** and set a **new Iowa Colony High School school record**;
- **4x200 Meter Relay** – **Kennedy Perkins, Arius Williams, Symone Williams, and Aysha Mitchell**, with alternate **Bailey Ballard**, earned a **Fourth Place State Finish**;
- **Aysha Mitchell** became the **first female jumper from Iowa Colony High School to qualify for the UIL State Track and Field Championships**, competing in the Long Jump;
- **Kennedy Perkins** became one of the **first hurdlers in Iowa Colony High School history to qualify for the UIL State Track and Field Championships**, competing in the 100-Meter Hurdles;
- **Ashtyn Lewis** earned the title of **UIL State Champion in the 400-Meter Dash** and finished **Second Place in the 200-Meter Dash**, completing an extraordinary performance despite competing while battling illness; and

**WHEREAS**, Ashtyn Lewis's accomplishment of successfully completing the demanding 200-meter and 400-meter double at the state level exemplifies resilience, determination, and elite athletic performance; and

**WHEREAS**, special recognition is extended to **Bailey Ballard**, whose contributions throughout the season played an important role in the team's success. Despite sustaining an injury that

prevented her from competing at the State Championships, Bailey, as a freshman, was a member of the school-record-setting relay team and competed on all three relay teams during the season, demonstrating tremendous promise and dedication to the program; and

*WHEREAS*, the accomplishments of these student-athletes reflect the values of teamwork, perseverance, leadership, and excellence, serving as an inspiration to future generations of Iowa Colony student-athletes;

***NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wil Kennedy, Mayor of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, together with the City Council, do hereby recognize and congratulate the Iowa Colony High School Girls Track and Field Team, their coaches, and supporters for their remarkable achievements and outstanding representation of the City of Iowa Colony at the UIL State Track and Field Championships.***

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Iowa Colony, Texas, to be affixed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2026.

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Wil Kennedy  
Mayor of Iowa Colony, Texas